

SAMPLE

Business Organization Letter of Support

SB 1397 (Escutia) –Support
Locomotive Emissions Reduction & Mitigation

The Honorable Martha Escutia
Attn: William Sanchez
California State Senate
Room 5080
Sacramento, CA 95814

On behalf of the (Business/Chamber Organization) _____, I urge your approval of SB 1397.

The business community, in partnership with the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD), has made significant progress in reducing air pollution from stationary sources such as manufacturers, refineries and small businesses. However, despite years of sustained efforts by AQMD and the regulated community, continued emissions from trains and other mobile air pollution sources that the AQMD does not have authority to regulate, now prevents Southern California from achieving clean air standards by the legally mandated federal deadline of 2010.

To continue to foster a strong business environment in our region, we cannot ask businesses to continually tighten their operations to further control emissions. We believe the time is right to look to sources in this region that are not currently contributing their fair share of emission reductions– those sources include locomotive operations, which are one of the single largest source of air pollution in the South Coast Air Basin. It’s critical that this emission source be controlled. Health studies have linked particulate pollution to lung cancer and the health and welfare of people who live and work in the vicinity of rail traffic is seriously impacted.

Funding through this legislation will help implement control strategies to mitigate emissions from locomotives. (Business or Chamber) _____ asks for your support of this bill, which will uphold the progress that has been made in achieving health-based clean air standards for all residents by not placing an unfair regulatory burden on local industry and businesses.

Sincerely,

{ Insert Name }
{ Affiliation }

SAMPLE

Local Government Letter of Support

SB 1397 (Escutia) –Support
Locomotive Emissions Reduction & Mitigation

The Honorable Martha Escutia
Attn: William Sanchez
California State Senate
Room 5080
Sacramento, CA 95814

On behalf of the City of _____, I urge your approval of SB 1397.

Continual increases in emissions from mobile sources, including trains, are preventing this region from achieving clean air standards by the legally mandated federal deadline of 2010. Funding through this legislation will help implement control strategies to mitigate emissions from locomotives and establish other mitigation programs. As you know, the South Coast Air Basin is the only “extreme” non-attainment area designated in the country, with the worst air pollution.

To continue to foster a strong business environment in our city, we cannot ask businesses to continually tighten their operations to further control emissions. We believe the time is right to look to sources in this region that are not currently contributing their fair share of emission reductions– those sources include locomotive operations, which are one of the single largest unregulated source of air pollution in the South Coast Air Basin. It’s critical that this emission source be controlled. Health studies have linked particulate pollution to lung cancer and the health and welfare of people who live and work in the vicinity of rail traffic is seriously impacted.

This year the legislature faces difficult decisions that will affect constituents. The City of _____asks for your support of this bill which will uphold the progress that has been made in achieving health-based clean air standards for all residents.

Sincerely,

{Insert Name} Mayor
{Insert City}

General Public

SB 1397 (Escutia) –Support
Locomotive Emissions Reduction & Mitigation

The Honorable Martha Escutia
Attn: William Sanchez
California State Senate
Room 5080
Sacramento, CA 95814

As a concerned resident, I urge your approval of SB 1397 which would help to reduce pollution from locomotive diesel exhaust, a toxic air contaminant that comes from trains operating in our region. Recent studies show that diesel emissions are responsible for 70% of the cancer risk from air pollution.

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) has made significant progress in reducing air pollution from stationary sources such as manufacturers, refineries and small businesses. However, despite years of sustained efforts by the agency, continual increases in emissions from trains and other mobile air pollution sources that the AQMD does not have authority to regulate, now prevents Southern California from achieving clean air standards by the legally mandated federal deadline of 2010.

Our region experiences the worst air pollution in the country. Also, communities and neighborhoods along the Alameda Corridor, Alameda Corridor East and other rail lines experience major traffic congestion and suffer from acute exposures to exhaust emissions due to the rapidly increasing freight traffic in this region.

I am concerned about the health effects from diesel soot, which has been identified as a carcinogen. The health impacts from diesel, particularly on our children, must be addressed in an aggressive fashion. In addition to dramatically increasing our progress in meeting federal standards, we can help stem the rising incidence of asthma and other respiratory ailments. I believe the time is right to look at locomotives in this region that are not currently contributing their fair share of emission reductions.

To protect my families' health, I firmly support legislation to allow AQMD to mitigate or reduce emissions from locomotives in the South Coast district. Additionally, I support granting the AQMD broadened use of mitigation fees to fund emission reductions from this and other mobile sources.

Stronger control of emissions from locomotives will help us to reach attainment for this region and experience the realization of improved air quality for all.

Sincerely,

Name
Address
City,Zip